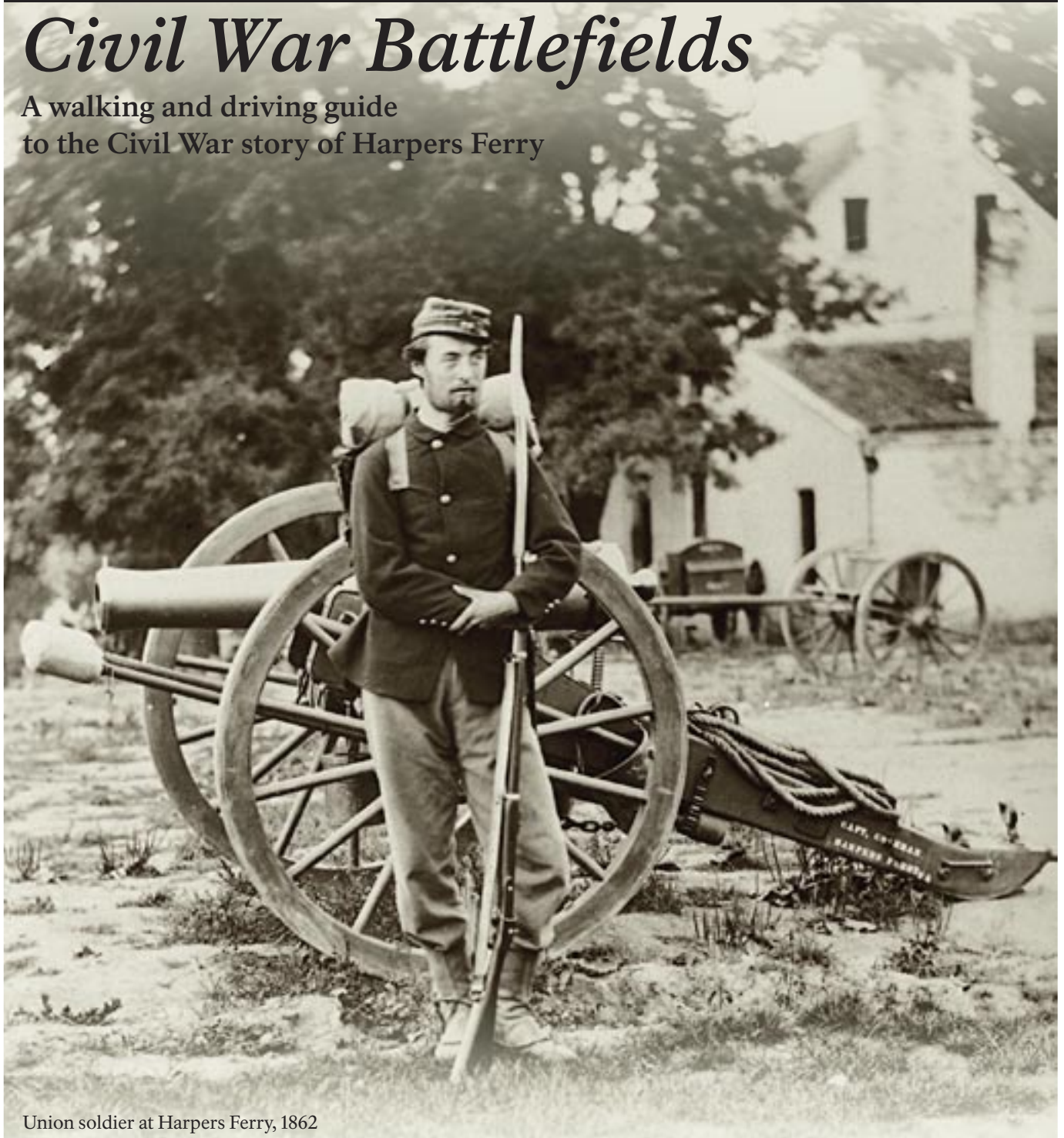


Harpers Ferry National Historical Park



Civil War Battlefields


A walking and driving guide
to the Civil War story of Harpers Ferry



Union soldier at Harpers Ferry, 1862

EXPERIENCE THE MYSTERY OF HISTORY

Walk to these Civil War sites

All self-guiding walking tours begin at the Lower Town bus shelter. 
Ride the free shuttle bus from the Visitor Center to the Lower Town.
Times and distances are round-trip from the bus shelter.


1 Arsenal Square

*Foundations of arsenal
destroyed at outbreak of
Civil War*

Easy 10-minute walk to arsenal foundations

 Wheelchair accessible with assistance

See outdoor exhibits and ruins of the United States arsenal buildings burned by Union troops in the first days of the Civil War.

Follow the sidewalk into town. Pass the **Master Armorer's House**. 
Turn right onto the dirt path next to the ropes around the ruins of the small arsenal.

2 John Brown Museum

and

John Brown's Fort

Easy 10-minute walk to park buildings, exhibits, and film

 Wheelchair accessible with assistance

Experience a revolt against slavery through films and interactive exhibits in the John Brown Museum. Visit John Brown's Fort where the "war that ended slavery began."

Follow the sidewalk into town. The John Brown Museum is the last building on the left side of the street.

John Brown's Fort is across the street from the John Brown Museum

3 Civil War Museum

and

1862 Battle of Harpers Ferry Exhibit

Easy 10-minute walk to park exhibits

View battle flags, cannonballs, rifles, and other Civil War artifacts in these two park exhibits.

Follow the sidewalk into town. Turn left on High Street and proceed to the Civil War Museum on the left.

The 1862 Battle of Harpers Ferry exhibit is across the street from the Civil War Museum.

4 Lower Armory Grounds

Easy 15-minute walk to trail through lower armory grounds

Visit the site of the armory destroyed by the Confederates and rebuilt as a Union supply depot. Examine the boat ramp used as a principal river crossing during the Civil War.

Follow the sidewalk into town. Turn left on Potomac Street. Look for the signs to Lower Armory Grounds. Walk up the slope towards the John Brown Fort Obelisk. *Do not follow the road onto the railroad bridge.* Turn left at the obelisk. Follow the trail to the wooden steps. Descend the steps to the armory site.

Lower Town



5 Maryland Heights *Civil War roads, forts, and campgrounds*

Strenuous 4-hour hike, 6.5-mile round-trip trail

Pick up a trail map at the Master Armorer's House. ?

Directions to the trailhead: follow the sidewalk into town. Turn right at John Brown's Fort. Walk under the railroad bridge. Walk up the slope. Turn left and follow the brick path onto the footbridge. Cross the bridge. Descend the spiral staircase onto the C&O Canal towpath. Walk upriver on the towpath for 0.6 miles. Follow the signs to the Maryland Heights trail.



Short on Time?

For a battlefield tour in less than one hour drive to the Bolivar Heights Battlefield (see next page).

Drive to these Civil War sites

- 1 Murphy Farm**
Civil War to Civil Rights Trail

Moderate 60-minute walk along a 2.2-mile round-trip trail

Explore the fields where Confederate troops closed the trap on the Union army in 1862.

Pick up a trail map at the Visitor Center.
 Begin the trail at the steps next to the Visitor Center restrooms.
- 2 Bolivar Heights Battlefield**
Civil War cannons, infantry trenches, site of largest Union surrender during the Civil War

5-minute drive to parking area and 0.75-mile round-trip trail along ridge

Drive from the Visitor Center across Highway 340. Follow Washington Street as it curves to the right. Turn left at the sign for Bolivar Heights Battlefield. Park in the parking area at the top of the ridge.

A spur trail leads to lower battlefield trail. The lower battlefield trail features eight outdoor exhibits.
- 3 Camp Hill**
Main Union artillery position during Battle of Harpers Ferry, military camp site

5-minute drive to easy 10-minute walk through outdoor exhibits

Outdoor exhibits about the area's history are found along the brick path in front of Mather Training Center.

Drive from the Visitor Center across Highway 340. Follow Washington Street as it curves to the right. Proceed 1.3 miles along Washington Street. Turn right at Storer College Place. Follow the signs to Mather Training Center.

Harpers Ferry Vicinity

